

Leonardsville

West Warehouse Hospital, Baltimore, Sept 26 1862

Dear Father & Mother,

I have been here most 3 weeks and have rec'd but one letter from home, I don't know what to make of it, this makes the *the* fourth time that I have written and I begin to feel as if a line from home would do me a considerable good.

I am now about 4 miles from camp with a detachment of 60 men to guard this hospital, there are none of the other boys from L— we have to stand on guard every other day 2 hours on and 4 off for 24 hours, we have to guard about 1200 sick & wounded the most of the wounded are very near well so that they [CO] can get around by the of crutches and canes.

The sick are very well cared for as well as could be expected where there are so many to gather.

I had the fun of seeing a company of secesh prisoners yesterday they were the worst set of human beings that I ever saw. There was not 2 of them dressed alike, they ragged, dirty & poor as wood in fact they were living skeletons.

While they were waiting on the dock for the steamboat a citizen stepped up and gave them some money and hundred for Jackson there ~~about~~ were two or three hundred of the hospital soldiers standing around them and they took him and *threwed* him in to the Bay [CO] he went down in under a ship and when he came up he was dead, that is the way they secesh get served.

They are about 2/5 secesh here but they are afraid to come out and express their sentiments. The prisoners that were taken at Harpers Ferry and paroled passed through here last Tuesday and Wednesday they are all again in camp.

Douglas Chicago there were 11000 of them they say that were not whipped but were sold by Col. Mills, they said too that he was killed by his [?]

I was up to camp Belger yesterday [?] boys from L— are all well. They general opinion is that we will get no further south than we are now, the Regt is being but up in squads to guard the hospital and government properly in the city. I hope you write as soon as you can for I want to hear from home.

Give my love to all.

Direct as before to camp.

Yours Truly,

J. F. Brand